

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096956

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:

TAGS:CI, SHUM, EAID

SUBJECT:CHILE DEBT RESCHEDULING

1. WE ANTICIPATE THERE WILL BE SOME DISCUSSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AT THE MAY 5-6 PARIS CLUB MEETING. IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE CONTINGENCIES IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF THE EMBASSY CAN OBTAIN RAUL SAEZ' REACTION TO LIKELY SUGGESTIONS FOR DEALING WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS OF SOME CREDITORS AS A MEANS OF ENSURING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN A FOLLOW-ON MEETING WITH CHILEAN ATTENDANCE.
 2. SOME CREDITORS WHO ARE PRESENTLY RELUCTANT TO SIT DOWN WITH THE CHILEANS MIGHT DO SO IF THEY THOUGHT THE CHILEAN DELEGATION TO A FOLLOW-ON MEETING WOULD BE PREPARED TO ALLOW THE PARIS CLUB SECRETARIAT TO INCORPORATE SOME GENERAL LANGUAGE IN THE AGREED MINUTE THAT WOULD TAKE NOTE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS OF THESE CREDITORS. SUCH LANGUAGE, PRESUMABLY NON-TENDENTIOUS TO AVOID UNDUE OFFENSE TO THE GOC, MIGHT SERVE TO PERSUADE ONE OR MORE HERETOFORE RELUCTANT PARIS CLUB MEMBERS TO DEAL WITH THE
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CHILEANS. IT WOULD BE A SMALL PRICE FOR THE GOC TO PAY

FOR A MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT. SUCH LANGUAGE COULD BE REGARDED AS WEAKENING THE ARGUMENT THAT THE PARIS CLUB DELIBERATIONS SHOULD BE STRICTLY CONFINED TO TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS. HOWEVER, RESOLUTION OF THE

CURRENT IMPASSE BETWEEN CREDITORS WOULD IN THE LONG RUN HELP PRESERVE THE PARIS CLUB AS AN EFFECTIVE INSTITUTION.

3. IF THE SITUATION AT PARIS WARRANTS, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO EXPLORE THIS IDEA PRIVATELY WITH NEBOT. IT IS LIKELY IN ANY EVENT THAT SOME SUCH PROPOSAL WILL BE ADVANCED BY NEBOT OR OTHERS. THUS, IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO HAVE SOME IDEA OF SAEZ' THINKING AND THE DEGREE OF GOC FLEXIBILITY ON THIS ISSUE. REQUEST RESPONSE NO LATER THAN MAY 2. KISSINGER

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